

Amendments to the Claims

Please CANCEL Claim 2, 5 and 11-20 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please AMEND Claims 1, 3, 9 and 10 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
a controller for issuing commands representative of a plurality of kinds of instruction;
an engine for executing image formation according to the command;
a control portion for holding a condition status indicating an internal condition of the engine and a factor status indicating a factor of the condition status, or the factor status, said control portion communicating with the engine and for notifying, in response to the command, the controller of the condition status and the factor status, or the factor status; and
judgement means, provided in the controller, for judging whether to adjust an image formation condition of the engine or not according to the condition status and the factor status, or the factor status,
wherein the control portion further holds a priority status indicating a priority of the factor, and the judgement means judges whether to adjust the image formation condition of the engine or not according to the condition status, the factor status, and the priority status, or the factor status and the priority status.
2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:

- a controller for issuing a plurality of commands;
- an engine for executing image formation according to the command;
- a control portion for holding a condition status indicating an internal condition of the engine and for notifying the controller of the condition status in response to the command;
- necessity judgement means, provided in the controller, for judging whether to adjust an image formation condition of the engine or not based on the condition status; and
- adjustment means for adjusting the image formation condition of the engine,

wherein the control portion holds a factor status by which, when the necessity judgement means judges that a necessity is admitted for an adjustment of the image formation condition, whether or not the necessity involves immediate adjustment is judged and which indicates a factor of the condition status, and

wherein the control portion holds a priority status indicating a priority regarding an adjustment execution of the image formation condition according to each factor.

4. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 3, wherein:

- the controller includes adjustment execution judgement means for judging whether or not the necessity involves the immediate adjustment based on the factor status; and
- when the adjustment execution judgement means judges that the necessity involves the immediate adjustment, the controller issues an adjustment execution command to the adjustment means.

5. (Canceled)
6. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 4,
wherein the adjustment execution judgement means judges that the immediate adjustment is necessary when the priority of the factor regarding the necessity is higher than a predetermined value.
7. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein the image formation condition is related to a density control of an image.
8. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 3,
wherein the image formation condition is related to a color component balance of a color image.
9. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus ~~according to claim~~
~~3~~comprising:
a controller for issuing a plurality of commands;
an engine for executing image formation according to the command;
a control portion for holding a condition status indicating an internal condition of the
engine and for notifying the controller of the condition status in response to the command;

necessity judgement means, provided in the controller, for judging whether to adjust an image formation condition of the engine or not based on the condition status; and
adjustment means for adjusting the image formation condition of the engine,
wherein the control portion holds a factor status by which, when the necessity judgement means judges that a necessity is admitted for an adjustment of the image formation condition, whether or not the necessity involves immediate adjustment is judged and which indicates a factor of the condition status, and
wherein the image formation condition is related to a color misregistration amount of a color image.

10. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus ~~according to claim 3,~~
comprising:
a controller for issuing a plurality of commands;
an engine for executing image formation according to the command;
a control portion for holding a condition status indicating an internal condition of the engine and for notifying the controller of the condition status in response to the command;
necessity judgement means, provided in the controller, for judging whether to adjust an image formation condition of the engine or not based on the condition status; and
adjustment means for adjusting the image formation condition of the engine,
wherein the control portion holds a factor status by which, when the necessity judgement means judges that a necessity is admitted for an adjustment of the image formation condition,

whether or not the necessity involves immediate adjustment is judged and which indicates a factor of the condition status, and

wherein the image formation condition is related to a shift amount of drum phases in multiple colors of a color image.

11-20. (Canceled)